

a mat filter folded into a cylindrical shape and pushed open on said supportive pipe to surround said supporting pipe;

*Sub C1*  
a plastic filter casing with openings enclosing said mat filter and delimiting a filter chamber, said filter casing being formed from a flat blank with opposite ends thereof bent toward one another and joined together by a sealing seam, said mat filter having an exterior diameter larger than an interior diameter of said filter casing;

two end caps connected to said filter casing; and

one axial end of said mat filter is conical to facilitate introduction thereof in said filter casing.

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~~11. A filter element according to claim 10 wherein said ends of said filter casing are joined by a heat seal~~

~~12. A filter element according to claim 10 wherein said ends of said filter casing are joined by a heating element.~~

~~13. A filter element according to claim 10 wherein said ends of said filter casing are joined by an ultrasonic weld.~~

14. A filter element according to claim 10 wherein said mat filter is pleated, comprises plastic material, and comprises an additional filter fold with a flush arrangement of mat filter edges on one another allowing said mat filter edges to be tightly joined.

15. A filter element according to claim 14 wherein said mat filter edges are joined by an ultrasonic weld.

16. A filter element according to claim 14 wherein said mat filter edges are joined by a heat seal.

17. A filter element according to claim 10 wherein said filter casing consists of recyclable plastic material.

18. A filter element according to claim 17 wherein said end caps consist of recyclable plastic material.

19. A filter element according to claim 18 wherein said supporting pipe consists of recyclable plastic material.

20. A filter element according to claim 17 wherein said supporting pipe consists of recyclable plastic material.

21. A filter element according to claim 10 wherein said openings in said plastic filter casing are formed by punching out devices.

22. A filter element according to claim 21 wherein  
said openings are circular.

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~~23. A filter element according to claim 10 wherein  
said sealing seams comprise intermittent contact points of said ends of said filter casing.~~

24. A filter element according to claim 10 wherein  
said sealing seam comprising an overlapping area of said ends of said filter casing.

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